

Application Publication No. WO 97/02290. These Publications are
B¹ herein incorporated by reference.--

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-7 and 9 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein.

Please amend the claims as follows:

B² 8. (Amended) A method for preventing and treating hepatic cirrhosis or bile duct disappearance syndrome comprising the step of administering a Fas antagonist to a patient in need.

Please add the following claims:

--10. A method according to claim 8 wherein said Fas antagonist is a substance which suppresses binding between Fas and Fas ligand.--


B³ --11. A method according to claim 8 wherein said Fas antagonist is a Fas derivative.--

--12. A method according to claim 8 wherein said Fas antagonist is a polypeptide which inhibits Fas-mediated apoptosis and which is selected from the group consisting of extracellular domain of Fas, a truncated form of the extracellular domain of Fas,

a truncated form of a Fas which is deleted in the transmembrane domain and a chimeric protein comprising said polypeptide and an Fc region of an immunoglobulin.--

--13. A method according to claim 8 wherein said Fas antagonist is an anti-Fas ligand antibody.--

--14. A method according to claim 8 wherein said hepatic cirrhosis is biliary cirrhosis.--

 --15. A method according to claim 8 wherein said hepatic cirrhosis is primary biliary hepatic cirrhosis.--

--16. A method according to claim 8 wherein said bile duct disappearance syndrome is bile duct disappearance syndrome caused by an immunological mechanism.--
